DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, DINDIGUL

DLSA.D.No.1012 /2025 Dated:16-05-2025

Ref: TNSLSA No.2009/S3/ 2025. Dated: 30-04-2025

NOTIFICATION NO.02/2025

Applications are invited from eligible persons to work full time on contract basis for a period of Two Years in "**LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL SYSTEM**" dealing exclusively with Legal Aided matter in Criminal Cases, proposed to be established in the District Legal Services Authority, Dindigul Details of the name of the Post and number of requirements are given below;

S.No	NAME OF THE POST	No. of Post
1.	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	01
	Total	**01**

Important Dates:

Date of Notification	16-05-2025
Last date for submission of Application	30-05-2025

The District Legal Services Authority, established under the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 with mandate to provide free and competent legal services to the underprivileged and disadvantaged section of the society to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities and to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity to all. Please visit website https://www.tnlegalservices.tn.gov.in for full details.

Realizing the need to ponder over the reforms required in the Legal Aid Movement of India a new model of Legal Services Delivery, the 'Legal Aid Defense Counsel System' (LADCS), in line with public defender system, is introduced by NALSA. As envisaged, LADCS involve full time engagement of lawyers with support system, dealing exclusively with legal aid work in criminal matters at every stage starting from the pre-arrest, arrest & remand stage to the conclusion of trials and appeals etc. It will enhance the availability and accessibility of Legal Aid in a timely manner and help in creating a mechanism to provide qualitative and competent legal services in a professional manner to underprivileged and disadvantaged section of the society.

This system will have the effect of enhancing the responsiveness of the Legal Aid Mechanism in country and will ensure accountability on the part of the

Legal Aid providers. The Legal Aid Defense Counsel System will also provide a unique opportunity for Law Students to learn from the best.

Applications are invited from eligible lawyers having requisite qualifications for Contractual fulltime engagement for the posts of Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel as per scheme in each district proposed herein. The number of engagement positions may vary from district to district, depending upon actual need as projected by the DLSA concerned. **The Lawyers so engaged therein will not be allowed to take any other private cases or any other retainership**.

The Scheme of engagement along with application form may be downloaded from the official website **https://dindigul.dcourts.gov.in/** and also from Notice board of DLSA, Dindigul. The duly filled application form along with self-attested copies of documents / certificates and all other supportive documents should be submitted to DLSA, Dindigul wherein the candidate desires to apply through speed post or in an envelope personally in the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, ADR Building, Dindigul 624 004 **on or before 30 th May 2025 by 17.45 Hrs.** Any application received after due date shall not be considered.

Note: Applying for engagement does not create any right/ assurance whatsoever.

Super scribe the envelope as **''Application for the post of** .....
in Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) in DLSA, Dindigul.

The date of Interview / Viva-voice will be intimated through https://dindigul.dcourts.gov.in/ website.

General Instruction :

- ✓ The Applicant must read the Legal Aid Defense Counsel (Modified) Scheme – 2022.
- ✓ Incomplete application will be rejected without assigning any reasons. No application will be entertained after the last date fixed.
- ✓ The applicant shall submit separate application for each post if he/she willing to apply for more than on post.
- ✓ The application without supporting certificates for minimum qualification will be rejected summarily.
- ✓ Must have handle at least 20 criminal trials in Sessions Court.
- ✓ Enclose photocopies of Judgments in 5 Sessions Cases, represented as Defense Lawyer.
- ✓ Enclose photocopies of at least 5 cross examination in Sessions cases.

- ✓ Candidature of a applicant will be rejected if it is found that the information furnished by him/ her are false.
- ✓ The Selection is subject to approval of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, TNSLSA
- ✓ The applicants should submit the mobile / Contact Number in their application for further required communication, if any.

Chairman / Principal District Judge,
District Legal Services Authority,
Dindigul.

Date: 16 - 05-2025
Place: Dindigul.

Encl :

1. Legal Aid Defense Counsel Scheme (Modified Scheme - 2022)
2. Legal Aid Defense Counsel Application Form

To :

1. All the Bar Associations & Advocate Association in Dindigul District.
2. Notice Board of Court Buildings in Dindigul District.
3. Notice board of District Legal Services Authority & Taluk Legal Services Committee in Dindigul District.
4. File.

LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL SCHEME (MODIFIED SCHEME - 2022)

Guidelines for engagement as Full Time Legal Aid Lawyer in LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL IN DLSA, DINDIGUL.

1. Scope of Work:

Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office shall be dealing exclusively with legal aided matters in criminal matters of the District or HQ, wherein it is established. It shall be providing legal services from the early stages of criminal justice till appellate stage, and the same shall include visits to jails from catering to the legal needs of unrepresented inmates. Initially it shall not be dealing with all type of civil matters and cases of complainant, matter pending before Juvenile Justice Boards / CWCs, wherein present counsel assignment system (Panel Lawyers) will continue to be operational for the purpose but panel shall be resized according to work based model. The following end to end legal services shall be provided through the Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office:

- Legal Advice and Assistance to all individuals visiting the office,
- Representation/Conducting trial and appeals including all miscellaneous work in all criminal courts such as Sessions, Special and Magistrate Courts including executive courts,
- Handling Remand and Bail work,
- Providing legal assistance at pre-arrest stage as per need and also in accordance with NALSA's scheme for providing such assistance,
- Any other legal aided work related to District Courts or as assigned by the Secretary, DLSA,
- Periodic visit of Prisons of the district under the guidance of the Secretary, DLSA.

2. Selection Procedure:

After due publicity including public notice, applications will be invited and a fair, transparent and competitive selection process shall be adopted by DLSA under guidance of SLSA. Legal Aid Defense Counsels shall be engaged on contract basis in each place/district initially for a period of two years with a stipulation of extension on yearly basis on satisfactory performance. The performance of each human resource shall be assessed in every six months by SLSA in consultation with DLSA concerned. Selection of Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsels will be purely based on merit, taking into account the knowledge, skills, practice and experience of candidates. The selection shall be carried out by Selection committee under the Chairmanship of the Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairman, DLSA) as envisaged in NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations 2010, subject to final approval by the Executive Chairman, SLSA. In the selection committee at least three senior most judicial officers posted at HQ, dealing mainly criminal cases, preferably sessions cases, will also be included. No person with conflict of interest shall be part of selection process. After approval by the Executive Chairman, SLSA, engagement contract will be executed between the Secretary DLSA and the person so engaged. The eligibility criterions are as follows:-

a. Qualification for Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel:

He / She must have;

- Practice in Criminal law for at least 7 years,
- Excellent understanding of criminal law,
- Excellent oral and written communication skills,
- Skill in legal research
- Through understanding of ethical duties of defense counsel,
- Ability to work effectively and efficiently with others,
- **Must have handle at least 20 criminal trials in Sessions Court,** may be relaxed in exceptional circumstances, by Hon'ble Executive Chairman, SLSA,
- IT Knowledge with proficiency in work.

3.WORK PROFILES:

Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel

- Conducting trials/ appeals/ Remand work/ Bail applications/visits to prisons etc., as assigned by Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel.
- Filing and arguing appeals and bail applications in Courts.
- Maintaining complete case files.
- Doing legal research in legal aided cases and guiding Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel and law students attached with the office in legal research.
- Proper client interviews at various stages for quality research work and representation at remand trial and appellate stage.
- All or any of the work of the Chief Defence Counsel as per assignment.
- Any work/duty assigned by Legal Services Authority.

4. TERMINATION OF SERVICES

Services of any Legal aid defence counsel engaged in the office of Legal Aid Defence Counsel System can be terminated at any time, without any prior notice in the following cases by the Chairman, DLSA on recommendation of the Secretary, DLSA or on direction by the SLSA in writing:

I. He / She substantially breaches any duty or service required in the office, or
II. Seeks or accepts any pecuniary gains or gratification in cash or kind from the legal aid seekers or beneficiary or his friend or relative, or
III. Charged or Convicted for any offence by any court of law, or
IV. Indulges in any type of political activities, or
V. Found incapable of rendering professional services of the required standards.
VI. Failure to attend training programmes without any sufficient cause, or
VII. Indulges in activities prejudicial to the working of legal aid defence counsel office, or
VIII. Using his/her position in legal aid defence counsel office to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for him/herself or others, or
IX. Acts in breach of code of ethics, or
X. Remains absent without leave for more than two weeks, or

XI. If services are found unsatisfactory during the six monthly performance review by the SLSA or DLSA.

5. CODE OF ETHICS:

Personnel engaged in the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall observe the following code of ethics:

i. No personnel shall act in any matter in which he/she has a direct or indirect personal or financial interest.
ii. No personnel shall wilfully disclose or use, whether or not for the purpose of pecuniary gain, any information that he/she obtained, received or acquired during the fulfilment of his/her official duties and which is not available to members of the general public.
iii. No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall make use of his/her office or employment for the purpose of promoting or advertising any outside activity.
iv. No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall engage in any outside activity or act as an independent practitioner.
v. No personnel within the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall solicit, agree to accept or accept, whether directly or indirectly, any gift, favour, service, or other thing of value under circumstances from which it might be reasonably inferred that such gift, service, or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him/her in, or rewarding him/her for, the discharge of his/her official duties.
vi. Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall devote his/her full time to his/her duties for the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel and shall not engage in private practice of law during the term of employment.
vii. Every Personnel of the office of Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall strive to preserve the public's confidence in the office's fair and impartial execution of its duties and responsibilities.
viii. Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall also follow the code of ethics prescribed by Bar Council of India for lawyers.

6. ENTITLEMENT TO LEAVE:

a. Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall be eligible for 15 days' leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis.
b. No remuneration for the period of absence in excess of the admissible leave will be paid to the human resource of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office.
c. Un-availed leave shall neither be carried forward to next year nor encashed.

7. ENGAGEMENT WITH LAW SCHOOLS:

Law schools often send their students to legal Services Institutions for internship. Moreover, Clinics of Law Colleges also collaborate with Legal Services Institutions. Law students can be engaged with the Legal Aid Defense Counsel office as to give them meaningful exposure to practical aspects of criminal law including preparing a defense strategy and doing legal research in various factual scenarios. Law students may be so engaged in the following areas in Legal aid defense counsel office:

- Legal research in criminal cases,
- Visiting scenes of crimes,
- Interviewing accused and their family members and other relevant persons,
- Visits of Prisons and Legal Aid clinics,

- ❖ Associating in campaign undertaken,
- ❖ Assist in sifting through all of the evidence collected by the prosecution and providing effective input for preparing defense strategy.

The internship to law students can be offered for a period upto 3 months. The law students so engaged shall not be paid any stipend by the Legal Services Authorities but the certificate of work and period of work will be issued jointly by the Chief Defense Counsel & Secretary, DLSA.

8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

- The work and performance shall be closely monitored by the Secretary DLSA and a monthly review meeting will be organised under the chairmanship of the Chairman, DLSA. The Minutes of the meeting shall be send to SLSA. A quarterly review meeting with every LADCS office and the Secretary, DLSA will also be organised by the Member Secretary, SLSA and minutes shall be send to NALSA. On half yearly basis review meeting shall be organised by NALSA. The formats for such data sharing will be shared at the time of launch. Monitoring shall be continuous process and at the end of six months the performance of every human resource shall be evaluated by the SLSA under the guidance of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, SLSA.
- Monitoring and Mentoring Committee shall monitor legal aid work of Legal Aid Defense Counsel Office.
- The Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel shall be involved in monitoring & mentoring of Legal Aid cases of the district.

10. HONORARIUM (Retainership fee) :

For Class – B Towns (Population more than 2 lacs but below 10 lacs)

1	Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel	Rs 40,000 to 60,000/- each

Note : In case of any discrepancy, please refer to approved scheme by NALSA.

APPLICATION FOR ENGAGEMENT AS FULL TIME LEGAL AID LAWYER IN LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL SYSTEM

STATE_____

DISTRICT_____

Application No. _____
(For Office use)

Photo

APPLICATION FOR CHIEF/DEPUTY/ASSISTANT LEGAL AID DEFENSE COUNSEL

1. Applicant's Name :
2. Father/Husband's Name :
3. Date of Birth :
4. Age (as on 01-03-2023) :
5. Gender :
6. Residential Address :

7. Office Address :

8. Chamber Address (if any) :

9. Telephone no. (O) :
10. Telephone No. (R) :
11. Mobile No. :
12. Fax No. :
13. E-mail ID :
14. PAN No. :
15. AADHAR No. :
16. Educational Qualification (Please enclose self-attested copies of documents):

Course	Name of Board/ University	Year of Passing	Obtained Percentage (aggregate)
Graduation			
Professional Degree LLB			
LLM			
Any other (if any)			

17. Date of Enrollment as Lawyer:
18. Enrollment No. :
    (Attach self-attested copy of enrollment certificate issued by Bar Council)
19. Experience in Bar :

(Duration of actual practice)

(Attach an experience certificate issued by the Bar Association/Council)

(a) Total no. of cases handled:

(b) Nature of cases handled :
(Attach extra sheet, if required)

(c) Specialization, if any :
(The details of a few important cases, the Applicants have dealt with/handled and reported judgement if any.)

20. Whether empanelled as Central/State Government or Government undertaking counsel/pleader :
(Indicate period & attach documents)

21. The Courts where the Applicant is regularly practising :
(Enclose Bar Association Membership Certificate)

22. Specify whether earlier remained on the panel of HCLSC/DLSA or TLSC :
(Indicate period, number of legal aid cases handled & result)
(attach documents)

23. Whether any disciplinary case/Complaint is/was against the Applicant with any Bar Council : YES NO
(If yes, specify details of both disposed & pending with documents)

24. List of the documents to be attached.
    1. Self-Attested copy of Certificates in support of educational qualifications.
    2. Self-Attested copy of Certificate in Enrollment issued by the Bar Council under the Advocates Act, 1961.
    3. Self-Attested copy of Photo Identity Card, Address Proof.
    4. Self-Attested copy of ITR for last 3 years (if available).
    5. Photo copies of judgments in 5 Sessions cases, represented as Defense lawyer, (for the post of Chief/Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel).
    6. Photocopies of at least 5 cross examinations in Sessions cases (for Chief/Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel).

(Signature)

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. In the event of any information being found false/incorrect at any stage, my candidature is liable to be cancelled. I have read and understood the instructions and terms of the engagement and agrees to abide by those. I declare that I fulfil the eligibility conditions for the category to which I am seeking engagement. I declare that I have never been penalised by any Bar Council in any Disciplinary Proceedings. I also undertake to maintain absolute integrity and discipline as required thereunder. I agree with the remuneration structure and all the terms and conditions notified by SLSA/DLSA concerned.

(Signature)

Place:_____

Date:_____